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FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L OUAGADOUGOU 001019

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/12/2018

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SUBJECT: DEMARCHE CONCERNING RESOLUTIONS ON IRAN, BURMA AND DPRK

REF: STATE 117848

Classified By: Ambassador Jeanine Jackson per E. O. 12948 1.5 (b) and (d)

¶1. (SBU) Ambassador delivered reftel demarche concerning resolutions on Iran, Burma and DPRK on Tuesday, November 11 to the Chief of Staff of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs,. Vincent Zakane. Also in attendance were the Director Generals for Bi-lateral and Multi-lateral Affairs. (Comment: Attempts to deliver the demarche to the Foreign Minister or his Deputy were unsuccessful since they have been out of the country and/or involved in the Cote d'Ivoire peace talks. End Comment).

¶2. (SBU) Ambassador discussed the contents of the non-papers related to the human rights situation in the three countries as well as the content of the non-paper on no-action motions.8 Ambassador listed precisely the requested action by Burkina Faso when the no-action motions and resolutions are presented.

¶3. (SBU) Mr. Zakane stated that Burkina Faso has become more and more aware of, and involved in, the problems of human rights and will seriously review the U.S. request for support on the three resolutions. He agreed that the no-action motions are an impediment to the committee's mandate. He said that his government is grateful for the United States, frequent consultation with their Permanent Representative in New York. However, as is normally the case, Zakane was not ready to commit to supporting the U.S. views until he has consulted with the Minister and the Perm Rep. Ambassador will follow up later this week.

¶4. (C) COMMENT: The GOBF has firmly rejected Iran's repeated requests to re-open an Embassy in Ouagadougou, invitations to attend meetings in Tehran, etc. The GOBF should therefore, in theory, support the Iran resolution. Burkina Faso has no particular stakes in Burma and DPRK so could well agree to support those resolutions also. However, it has always been clear that lobbying is also needed in New York with Burkina Faso's Permanent Representative to the UN. The Africa block can often sway him in one direction or another and he has not always voted according to what his government has told us here.

JACKSON